

REMARKS

Figures 6 and 7 have been amended to correctly identify the “BANK INTERFACE” and the “TBV DATA.” The Examiner has objected to Figure 1 as using reference numeral 108 and 222 to indicate the same element. Applicant believes that the Examiner meant to object to Figure 6 and not Figure 1 which does not contain reference numeral 222.

Claims 24, 27 and 53 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 27 has been amended to correct a typographical that would have been obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 24 and 53 have been amended to remove reference numerals from the claims.

Claims 18 and 35 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. The Examiner asserts that applicant’s previous amendments to claims 18 and 35, in which a plurality of hashes corresponding to a plurality of browser components at a first point in time are compared to a plurality of hashes corresponding to a plurality of browser components running on a computer at a second point in time, resulted in claims that were not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner appears to be basing his assertion only on the original claims and not on the specification.

Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to the following portions of the specification that detail the features of claims 18 and 35 related to creating hashes of the browser components: page 2, lines 14-20; page 6, lines 13-18; page 6, line 34, through page 7, line 9; page 7, lines 25-32; page 9, lines 28-35; and page 11, line 31, through page 12, line 3.

Claims 1, 18, 35, 59 and 68 stand rejected under 35 USC 101. Applicant has amended claims 1, 18, 35, 59 and 68 to recite statutory subject matter, thereby overcoming this rejection.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) over Orrin (U.S. Patent Publication No. 202/0128940). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Orrin does not disclose or suggest verifying the authenticity of components running in a browser environment. Orrin does disclose digitally signing documents to ensure their trustworthiness. Orrin also discloses that a browser may contain a built-in feature to digitally sign documents. Orrin does not, however, disclose or suggest including a second digital signature used to verify the trustworthiness of the browser itself as recited in claim 1.

Orrin only discloses a single signature, and that signature is used only to verify the trustworthiness of the signed document. However, as noted in applicant's specification, such systems are untrustworthy in that the browser itself may become corrupted. A corrupted browser may be used to issue signed documents that the browser's owner does not intend to issue. Applicant's invention addresses this problem by verifying the trustworthiness of the browser itself, and by including a second digital signature verifying the browser's trustworthiness along with digitally signed documents. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has improperly construed Orrin's disclosure of digitally signing a document as somehow also verifying the browser itself; such a feature is not disclosed or suggested by Orrin. Therefore, Orrin not disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Orrin.

Claims 2-17 depend from allowable claim 1 and are therefore also allowable.

Claims 18-49 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) over Shear (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,569). Claims 50-86 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Shear. Applicants traverse these rejections.

Initially, applicant notes that the page 9, section 7, of the Action states that claims 18-49 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Shear "in view of US Patent 5,958,051 to Renaud et al." Applicant respectfully submits that it is improper to combine references in a rejection under 35 USC 102(e) in such a manner. Because the Examiner does not further cite to Renaud in the accompanying text of the Action, applicant assumes that the inclusion of Renaud was a typographical error. However, if the Examiner intended to reject the claims under 35 USC 103, the applicant traverses this rejection on the Examiner's failure to provide a motivation to combine

the references. Accordingly, the following remarks are directed to the rejection of claims 18-49 under 35 USC 102(e) over Shear.

Claim 18 recites transmitting a second set of hashes to a computer which compares a first set of hashes to the second set of hashes. This feature is not disclosed or suggested by Shear. Shear discloses a method and system for determining if the integrity of a load module that has been compromised (col. 12, lines 17-54). In Shear, an encrypted verified hash of a load module is sent to a protected processing environment along with the load module itself. The protected processing environment then decrypts the verified hash of the load module, generates a second hash of the load module and compares it to the verified hash to ensure that the load module has not been altered or substituted during transmission. This differs from applicant's invention in at least two significant respects.

First, in Shear, the second hash is never transmitted; it is generated and compared at the same microprocessor. This feature is contrary to applicant's invention where the second hash is transmitted to a trusted verifier which is used to determine the trustworthiness of a browser.

Second, Shear does not disclose generating a hash of a browser or browser components that are running on a computer at a second point in time. Shear discloses generating a single hash of a load module upon receipt of the load module prior to running the load module. To run the load module prior to verifying its validity is contrary to the purpose of Shear, which is to validate the load module prior to running it in the protected processing environment. Such a system is used to ensure that the load module has not been tampered with prior to its operation such that a compromised program is not executed. This is contrary to applicant's invention in which the browser is verified to ensure that a digital signature attached to a document was created by a validated browser. Applicant's invention is not concerned with the validity of an executable program to be run in the future (such as a load module), instead applicant's invention is concerned

with determining the validity of a digitally signed document by ensuring the validity of the signature and the trustworthiness of the browser that sent or created the signature in the past.

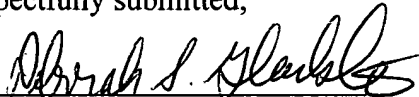
Shear does not disclose all of the features recited in claim 18, which is therefore allowable. Claims 35, 50 and 68 recite similar features to those discussed above, and are therefore also allowable. Claims 19-34, 36-49, 51-67 and 69-86 depend from allowable claims and are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief, including extensions of time, and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 3880220018.

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Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS

In the Drawings:

Replace the original drawing sheets with the attached drawing sheets.

Figure 6 has been amended to correctly identify the “BANK INTERFACE” using reference number 222.

Figure 7 has been amended to correctly identify the “BANK INTERFACE” using reference number 222, and to correctly identify the “TBV DATA” using reference numeral 232.